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(54) Title: STABILISATION OF NUCLEIC ACIDS

(57) Abstract: A method for the stabilisation of nucleic acid from a biological sample, which comprises: (a) collecting of biological sample; (b) treating the sample so that a proportion of the 2', 3' or 5' -OH positions of the nucleic acid are modified with a protecting group; and (c) subjecting the treated sample to one or more steps to isolate nucleic acid therefrom; wherein the modified nucleic acid is subjected to a deprotection step comprising treatment with a primary amine to remove the protecting group.

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